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Sent: 1/22/2021 4:11:39 PM
To: O'Connor, Darcy [oconnor.darcy@epa.gov]
CC: Garcia, Bert [Garcia.Bert@epa.gov]; Bahrman, Sarah [Bahrman.Sarah@epa.gov]
Subject: UIC EOY Accomplishments for WD All Hands

Hi Darcy: here are some bullets, etc. for Monday's WD All Hands Meeting.

Douglas

Final UIC Class III and V permits for Powertech's proposed Dewey Burdock uranium in-situ recovery (ISR) project in the southern Black Hills

Valois Robinson, Rick Arnold, Tony Ranalli, Omar Sierra-Lopez, Bruce Suchomel, Douglas Minter, several ORC attorneys incl. Lucita Chin and Student Volunteer Melissa Saale

- These are EPA's first in the nation permits regulating the ISR of uranium and set stringent requirements to ensure protection of USDWs downgradient of the project site.
- EPA also approved an aquifer exemption to facilitate mining of the uranium-bearing aquifers, and produced hundreds of pages of supporting documentation including a Response to Comments, Environmental Justice Analysis and Cumulative Effects Analysis.
- Close collaboration among numerous Regional technical staff, attorneys and managers involving many months of work was required to address thousands of public comments received in response to EPA's draft permits issued in March 2017 and again in August 2019.
- EPA also completed a five year process engaging nine tribal governments in formal consultation through multiple meetings and educational webinars, and worked closely with NRC scientists to ensure the UIC permits would not conflict with NRC's license requirements for this project.

EPA Administrator signed a FRN in August 2020 approving the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ) Class VI injection well program.

Wendy Cheung, Douglas Minter, and Lucita Chin in ORC

- Wyoming is the second state in the nation to obtain Class VI primacy authorizing the DEQ to issue injection well permits for the long-term storage of carbon dioxide from industrial and energy-related sources as part of EPA's national climate change mitigation efforts.
- Upon receiving a complete primacy application under the Governor's signature at the end of January 2020, EPA worked closely with the DEQ and OGWDW to issue proposed and final rules through the Office of Water in just seven months.

Final UIC Class V Permit for Castle Rock Water's (CRW) Aquifer Storage and Recovery Project

Linda Bowling, Lise Marie Bisson, Craig Boomgaard, Douglas Minter, and Gary Wang in ECAD

- EPA Region 8 issued its second Class V area permit for an aquifer storage and recovery (ASR) project using the Denver and Arapahoe Aquifers to the Town of Castle Rock, CO.
- The project initially authorizes two wells for injection of treated drinking water for storage in these aquifers during periods of low demand, and then recovery from these aquifers to supply Douglas County residences during periods of high demand.

- UIC program staff and management worked closely with CRW's Director and staff to ensure that EPA's permit conditions would be technically feasible while ensuring that all USDWs within and near these major Denver Basin aquifers would be protected.
- Concurrent with permit issuance, EPA also released a comprehensive Q and A document effectively addressing a number of regulatory questions and concerns from ASR operators. This will help ensure that future ASR permit applications are complete and provides assurance on how EPA's regulations will be consistently enforced to enhance regulatory certainty.